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# Library Education and Development Newsletter, Volume 1, Issue 2

UNO Library Science Education  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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January 2008

Volume 1, Issue 2

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Omaha

## L. E. A. D.

### Library Education and Development Newsletter

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*Advice from the Frontlines—Lorelei Perkins  
Papillion La Vista South High School Media Specialist*

#### ***In your capacity as a professional librarian, what aspects of your job bring you the most joy?***

I get the most joy from interacting with patrons. I love to “walk the shelves” with students and find something, anything to read. I also love the challenge of doing research interviews. Helping staff and students find those obscure pieces of information on the net is like a detective game. Love it, love it!

#### ***Please discuss one personal characteristic that you feel has contributed to your success as an Information Professional.***

I would like my tombstone to say, “She was flexible!”. Just recently, I was considering a procedure for a new material. My obsessive-self began to plan a whole, long process for access. Then I read an entry in Im\_net and realized I was creating steps that would not only delay access to patrons, but could cause patrons to feel they were distrusted. I just needed to loosen up and view it from the patron's eyes. To be flexible, I want to do that often.

#### ***What one issue should future librarians be prepared to address in the workplace?***

Diversity of patrons. As a student said to me, patrons need to “see themselves” in the materials in the library, print and non-print. Obviously this is important for fiction materials, but we should

also look at the nonfiction and reference materials with an eye to the wide, wonderful variety of people we serve. Another side is the variety of comprehension, decoding, and need levels of our patrons. By this, I mean the reading comfort levels for materials (even picture nonfiction and fiction books for information in varied formats for non-elementary patrons) and databases that present information in a variety of levels. As good consumers of information, patrons can use different levels and styles in all of their library contacts. I believe this issue is important because we are not a static service and we need to be open and eager to address the population we have and the population we will be seeing in the future. We are never “done”.

#### ***In our coursework we often discuss the importance of collaboration. Can you share an instance of successful collaboration with a group?***

Collaboration is the result of good interpersonal skills and finesse. I don't schedule anyone anywhere in the library without asking what they are going to be working on. Then I offer my services and suggest things I can do to help. Sometimes we formally work out my contribution, sometimes I just put together some helps and

have them ready to go. I try to walk through every class and give ideas as students are working on their assignments. Then I can pull small groups together and show an actual application. My evaluation goal this year has involved increasing the understanding and use of databases. I have made efforts to show students more types of resources on the net. I have personally approached several teachers after scheduling them in lab space and offered to show specific databases geared to their assignments. Most can be addressed by our existing databases or electronic books, but several needed materials that we don't have in our library. I set up 4 database evaluations timed to their assignments and gave short intros to the students. They loved being the “test groups” and filled out very short evals of the sites. We are actually going to purchase one of the sites based on student and teacher input. Everyone feels like they had a voice. I saw increased proficiency in web-site evaluation and critical reason. I was especially happy when a student came and told me he is using the same database in AP UNO class and feels ready to go for his college classes.

***Thank you, Lorelei, for your wonderful contributions to the profession!***

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Coordinator, Library  
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## ***Student Spotlight—Alysa Haack*** ***Culler Middle School Media Specialist***

### ***What is your education / library / professional background?***

This is my first year as a Media Specialist at Culler Middle School, and I am continuing my education and certification at UNO. The classes in this program are the best learning experiences I have ever had. I have a Master's degree in education from UNL, a Bachelor's degree in math and elementary education from CU in Boulder and an Associate's degree from Cottey College. I have taught at elementary, alternative high school and middle school for 17 years before this year.

### ***What is on your reading list? What are your favorites? Your recommended? Your want to read lists?***

My reading list is growing as I sit working with Novelist, a new favorite database. My favorites are *The Uglies* series by Scott Westerfeld, a hit this year at my school, *Chew on This* by Eric Schlosser, another great read my daughter said recently she wishes I had never read, and *The Giver* by Lois Lowry—one of my all-time faves for kids. My recommended list includes *The Perfect Shot* by Elaine Alphin, and *Becoming Naomi León* and *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan. For adults I recommend *Here If You Need Me* by Kate Braestrup, and anything by Barbara Kingsolver. I just finished taking YA Lit, which had a great reading list—any Printz award winners are worth reading. My Want to Read list includes *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell, *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, *World According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney and *Code Talkers* by Joseph Bruchac.

### ***What professional journal or article have you read and would recommend? Why?***

I am trying to plow through *Assessing Learning: Librarians and Teachers as Partners* by Violet Harada and Joan M.

Yoshina. It is critical that we know, understand, and can be advocates for our libraries in this assessment age. We need to understand our important role in leading students to be in control of their learning and assessment. We need to teach processes and strategies students can use to connect and further their learning. I read School Library Journal and Booklist to learn how to do this job.

### ***What do you do in your "down time"? Do you have any hobbies? How do you relax?***

I am a homebody. I like to be at home with my family. Bob, my husband is a Media Specialist, too, and has funny stories to share, helpful hints to make my first year more manageable and inspiration for me to learn to do this job well. My daughter, Julia, is an avid reader as well. Keeping up with her reading is interesting and fun. Lately I have been baking for holiday gatherings and thinking about letters I will write to friends and family.

### ***What deep dark secret would you like to share?***

I have not played a video game since Pacman.

### ***Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.***

I embrace a thoughtful change because I like to learn. Sometimes learning is messy, confusing, contradictory, challenging. But I love the feeling of growth when I am learning.

### ***What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?***

Get to know a few classmates. Read good books. Enjoy the ride.

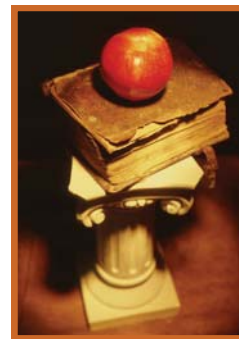
### ***What do you see as key future trends and challenges for Library Information Specialists?***

Even with our best searching tools and newest toys for demonstrating learning, students are going to have to read the information they find. Information literacy skills are going to be as important as ever. Learning to organize all kinds of electronic information--emails, websites, databases, reviews, and advertisements--is vital.

### ***What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?***

I just worked on the mission for our media center - to connect, to collaborate and to prepare for learning adapted from the AASL goals for libraries. This seems like a good place to start for a legacy. It is still a wonder to touch the future.

***Thank you for contributing, Alysa. Best of luck this semester!***



He is wise who knows the sources of knowledge—where it is written and where it is to be found.

A.A. Hodge  
(1823-1886)

## *Announcements*

### *Scholarships, Registration, Comprehensive Exams, Graduation*

#### **Scholarship Opportunities:**

Please take advantage of these opportunities available for students pursuing library studies. These scholarships are waiting to be snapped up by deserving students like you, so please make the decision to apply. Your educational journey is worthwhile, but it's not free. Let ALA, NLC, NLA, and NEMA help!

##### **American Library Association**

The American Library Association and its units provide more than \$300,000 annually for a Master's Degree in library and information studies from an ALA accredited program, or for a Master's Degree in school library media that meets the ALA curriculum guidelines for a National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredited unit. The scholarship process is open annually from October-March. Applications and reference forms (which must be submitted on-line) are available during that time period. Instructions and general information remain available year round. For a complete list of available scholarships, visit the ALA at:  
<http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=scholarships>

##### **Nebraska Library Commission**

The Nebraska Library Commission awards scholarships to Nebraskans for coursework and degree programs in library studies. The NLC offers scholarships valued at \$1000.00 for students pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science or School Library Media. The NLC also offers scholarships valued at \$2500.00 for students pursuing a Master's of Library and/or Information Science degree (MLS), or those seeking a Master of Education degree in School Library Media. For information and deadlines, visit the NLC at:  
<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/Scholarships.asp>

#### **Scholarship Opportunities Continued:**

##### **Nebraska Library Association**

The NLA established the Louise A. Nixon Scholarship Fund to provide \$1000.00 to any Nebraska student in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Library/Information Science, or a Master's Degree in a media program that meets the ALA/AASL curriculum guidelines. The \$250.00 Duane Munson Scholarship is available to help practicing librarians and paraprofessionals to gain additional library-related education and training. For submission and deadline information, visit the NLC at:  
<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

##### **Nebraska Educational Media Association**

NEMA awards two \$800.00 continuing education scholarships to school library Media Specialists and paraprofessionals who wish to gain additional professional training in the field on a full or part time basis. For more information, visit NEMA at:  
<http://www.nema.k12.ne.us/mem.dir/Conted/html>

#### **Registration Information:**

##### **Summer 2008 Registration**

The Summer 2008 schedule will be available for viewing on E-BRUNO in early April. An email will be sent providing information on your specific registration date and time.

Classes fill up quickly, so be ready to register during your assigned time! Contact Dr. Pasco with any questions.

#### **Spring 2008 Comprehensive Exams:**

Selective Retention must be submitted and approved before students can register for comprehensive exams. The registration deadline is Friday, **January 25th** for those students taking comprehensive exams during the Spring 2008 semester!

To register, contact Joyce Jones in the Department of Teacher Education  
Phone: 402-554-2212 or  
1-800-858-8648, ext. 2212  
Email: [jjones@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:jjones@mail.unomaha.edu)

#### **Graduation:**

You must complete an Application for Degree during the semester in which you plan to graduate. Log into E-BRUNO and fill out the application on or before the deadline for that Graduation Ceremony. The deadline is **March 16th** for students planning to graduate during the Spring 2008 semester.

There is a \$25 Application for Degree Fee payable at the time the application is submitted.

After applying for your degree, visit the UNO Bookstore to order your cap, gown, and graduation announcements.



Think of yourself as on the threshold of unparalleled success. A whole clear, glorious life lies before you. Achieve!

Andrew Carnegie  
(1835-1919)



## Technology News and Tools

### Great Software For Kids!

CHICAGO - The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), has selected its Fall 2007 list of Great Interactive Software for Kids (GISK), which recognizes high-quality computer programs and digital media for children 14 years of age and younger. The selected products are:

**1701 AD.** Aspyr Media. [www.aspyr.com](http://www.aspyr.com). Ages 10 and up.

**Anime Studio.** E-Frontier. [www.e-frontier.com](http://www.e-frontier.com). Ages 10 and up.

**Big Brain Academy.** Nintendo. [www.nintendo.com](http://www.nintendo.com). Ages 6 and up.

**Collage Machine.** ProtoZone Interactive. [www.protozone.net](http://www.protozone.net). All ages.

**Crazy Machines 1.5.** Viva-Media. [www.viva-media.com](http://www.viva-media.com). Ages 6 and up.

**KaleidoDraw.** ProtoZone Interactive. [www.protozone.net](http://www.protozone.net). All ages.

**Kaleidopix.** ProtoZone Interactive. [www.protozone.net](http://www.protozone.net). All ages.

**Nancy Drew: The Creature of Kapu Cave.** Her Interactive. [www.herinteractive.com](http://www.herinteractive.com). Ages 10 and up.

**Sid Meier's Railroads.** Firaxis. [www.firaxis.com](http://www.firaxis.com). Ages 6 and up.

**Snapshot Adventures: Secret of Bird Island.** Large Animal Games. [www.largeanimal.com](http://www.largeanimal.com). All ages.

For the annotated list of Fall 2007 Great Interactive Software for Kids, visit the ALSC Web site at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/childrensnoteable/greatintsoftware/currentGISK.htm>.

### Ask Mr. Technology by Joe Huber

**Q:** I am going to be making a Power-Point presentation to our local chapter of media specialists and will prepare a hand-out of the presentation. I want to make sure that there is plenty of room by each slide for the audience to take notes. Is there an easy way to print my handouts so that this is possible?

**A:** If you are using Office 2000 or Office 2003, under "File" go to "Send To" and send the presentation to Microsoft Word. If you are using Office 2007, go to "Publish Handouts in Microsoft Office Word". These options will allow you to leave plenty of space after each slide for notes.

**Q:** Every now and then I run across a YouTube video I want to use in class but cannot figure out how to save it. Also, I have been reading that more of the major film and TV production companies are going to start posting video on the Web, which I hope means I will have even more to use in class. Is there a way to save any of this video to use in class?

**A:** Before we look at the technical part of your question, let's look at the legal part. Streaming video is intended to be viewed online and not saved; therefore, once you save it, you are securing rights the original producer never intended you to have. While this will most likely be no problem with an individual who posts a home-created video on YouTube, it will be a problem with major film and TV production companies (all one has to do is look at the recording industry over the last couple of years as an example). So, the first thing you need to do is get permission before you download any streamed video. Then, go to <http://keepvid.com> and enter the URL of the video you want to download. Save the video to your hard drive. To play the video you will need a player like FLV Player from [www.download.com/FLV-Player/3000-2139\\_4-10467081.html](http://www.download.com/FLV-Player/3000-2139_4-10467081.html) or VLC Player from [www.videolan.org/vlc](http://www.videolan.org/vlc) or you can convert it to an .avi, .mov or a .mp4 with Vixy.net online file converter from <http://vixy.net>.

Courtesy of: Huber, J. (2007). Ask Mr. Technology. *Library Media Connection*, 26 (3), p. 60.

### Check Out These Websites!

*Information Today*, the newspaper for users and producers of electronic information services, has announced a new innovation at Computers In Libraries (CIL)—the "InfoTubey Awards"! They are given to libraries which used YouTube to market their library or its services or enhance the standing of the library in the community. See the winning videos at: [www.infotodayblog.com/2007/04/17/the-first-infotubey-award-ceremony](http://www.infotodayblog.com/2007/04/17/the-first-infotubey-award-ceremony)

*Booklist Online* has announced the Top 10 Sci-Tech Books For Youth: 2007, all reviewed in *Booklist* during the last year. From exotic animals to fuzzy house pets, and from climate change to meteorological science, these books are the best of the best! See the complete list at: [www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=2399903](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2399903)

Whether it's used to figure out a grade point or a batting average, track the trajectory of a golf swing, or determine how many miles per gallon a car will get, math is everywhere. So, it's surprising it appears so rarely in fiction for young readers! The titles compiled by *Booklist Online* present math in a variety of different ways—as annoyance, entertaining pastime, unusual way to think about love, or stability on the rocky ridge of adulthood. With numbers, so clean and precise, there is usually an answer to be had. See the list of favorites at: [www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show\\_product&pid=2129309](http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=2129309)



**The next issue of L.E.A.D. will go out in April 2008!**

## 13th National AASL Conference Highlights—and—A Name Is Chosen!

### **An Experience To Remember...**

**The 13th National AASL Conference was held October 25th-October 28th in Reno. Dr. Pasco was able to secure a travel grant, which allowed 2 Graduate Students to attend the conference with her. Here they share their experiences...**

"Thanks to a travel grant written by Dr. Pasco and funded through U.N.O., my name was drawn for a free trip to the National AASL Conference in Reno. Of course I was excited to be flying to Reno with Dr. Pasco and Bridget Kratt, her Graduate Assistant. But, my excitement grew as I attended sessions and visited exhibits.

Dan Pink's opening address was based on his book, *A Whole New Mind*. He elaborated on six abilities that will be needed in the coming conceptual age. The ability to creatively design materials, to write meaningful stories, and to empathize with others are skills I think about often now in relation to how our schools need to operate.

One session by two librarians from New York City outlined how to "Make a Big Impact at Your School Board Meeting". As my local school board makes plans regarding the combining of school libraries and a possible building project, the points made by these ladies contained nuggets of gold for me. Who would have thought that the situation of an inner city New York school library would have lessons for me in rural Nebraska?



Topping off all the wonderful sessions of the conference was the privilege of networking and hanging out with some of Nebraska's wonderful library media specialists. These dynamic people are such a joy to be around. They provide inspiration and insight for those of us beginning the journey in library school media.

Thank you U.N.O., Dr. Pasco, and Bridget for this once-in-a-lifetime experience."

- Beth Foulks  
*Library Media Specialist-Ponca Hills School*

"I would like to extend a big thank you to Dr. Pasco for writing the grant and to U.N.O. for extending the funds, which allowed me to attend the 13th National AASL Conference in Reno. The presentations and sessions I was able to be a part of, as well as the ability to network with professionals from both here in Nebraska as well as all over the country, left an indelible mark!

Dan Pink, author of, *A Whole New Mind*, and keynote speaker of the opening general session, set the tone with his inspirational take on innovation, creativity, and the future.

The Exploratorium, which was like a big science fair for Library Media Specialists, showcased the "best practices" from the school library media community through more than 50 individual learning stations. Visiting with professionals from all around the country and hearing about the latest trends in school media programs was a wonderful and insightful experience.

The highlight of my trip, however, was sitting in on a session on Censorship, given by Judith Krug, the Director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. After discussing the importance of imagination in the development of young people, and how librarians and others can prepare for and deal effectively with book challenges, she introduced the amazing panel of guest speakers, who happened to be authors of award winning books for young adults: Chris Crutcher, Lois Duncan, and Carolyn Mackler. Having these 3 phenomenal authors in the same room at the same time was quite a treat.

Along the way, I met and made a new friend in Beth Foulks, who is so passionate about giving her students the best experiences, and is such a wonderful role model. The 3 days went by fast, but the memories will last a lifetime. Thank you again Dr. Pasco and U.N.O.!

- Bridget Kratt  
*UNO Library Science Graduate Assistant*

### **What's In A Name?**

**Thanks to Ben Johnson... plenty! He is the winner of last issue's "Name the Newsletter" contest. Ben came up with several great names to choose from, but L.E.A.D. (Library Education and Development) was selected as the best! The name sums up the program here at U.N.O. quite well! Thank you, Ben!**



No matter how busy you may think you are, you must find time for reading, or surrender yourself to self-chosen ignorance.

Confucius  
(551 B.C.—479 B.C.)